

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 12, 1999

LB 556

prompting the discussion and insisting and, quite frankly, I hadn't thought about doing it in this bill,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...but I think it's a good idea, I hope you do, too.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Well, Mr. President, looks like I'm in deep doo-doo, doesn't it, because I don't support this amendment. And it has nothing to do with my good friend, Senator Lynch, nor my ex-friend, Senator Kristensen. (Laughter) If the issue is the number of plates, folks, there's no need for it. All you...you've got six digits on a 1 or a 59, or a 2; start over with the alphabet on the other end, you have AAAXXX, and all of that, which is currently being used, to start over. You do understand, I suppose, that while the bill, as it is proposed, only...only applies in the three counties mentioned, I would not want to predict how long that would last, because in politics and government there is a great need not to be different from Iowa, not to be different from Kansas. Those people couldn't resist not being different from Oklahoma, and not being different from Illinois, and not being different from other states. I think in Nebraska we can be different. I think the problem that is perceived is one that's easily overcome with a little planning on the part of county officials. I say this with a certain degree of assuredness, and that in my county, over the period of time that license plates are the same, that a number of numbers are accumulated that are not reissued. The treasurer simply does not issue the whole thing. The reason for that is that over time license plates are not turned in when vehicles change, when people move away, they simply end up in a dumpster someplace, and that's the fate, whether it's legal or not. It isn't really a necessary thing. This is something we've talked about forever. Senator Kristensen, by the way, the numbering system came into place in the early twenties, 1921, I believe. Based upon the number of registered vehicles in each county, the 1951 time was the last time when the Legislature actually enacted a change in license plates, and we went from a